GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
WATER RESOURCES
LOK SABHA

STARRED QUESTION NO:453
ANSWERED ON:20.12.2000
INTER-STATE WATER DISPUTES
SADASHIVRAO DADOBA MANDLIK;VSM (RETD.) COL. CHOUDHARY

Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether there are inter-State water disputes between various States for the last several years;

(b) if so, whether the Government propose to work out modalities for solving these long pending disputes;

(c) whether the Government contemplate to set up The National Water Dispute Tribunal headed by a sitting Supreme Court or High Court judge or retired judge for the purpose; and

(d) if so, the time by which such Tribunal is likely to be set up?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI ARJUN CHARAN SETHI)

(a) to (d) A Statement is laid on the Table of the House.

STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PARTS (a) TO (d) OF STARRED QUESTION NO.453 TO BE ANSWERED (20.12.2000 IN THE LOK SABHA REGARDING INTER-STATE WATER DISPUTES

(a) & (b) : Ravi and Beas water dispute and Cauvery water disputes were referred to the tribunals under the provisions of the Inter State Water Disputes (ISWD) Act, 1956 in April, 1986 and June, 1990 respectively for adjudication. Ravi and Beas Waters Tribunal has submitted its report on 30.1.1987. The Central Government as well as the party States of Rajasthan, Haryana and Punjab have sought explanation and guidance on certain points from the Tribunal under Section 5(3) of the Inter-State Water Disputes Act, 1956. Cauvery Water Disputes Tribunal passed an interim order on June 25, 1991 giving relief to State of Tamil Nadu and Union Territory of Pondicherry. The Central Government has published the interim order in the official gazette on 10.12.91 making it final and binding on the parties to the disputes. The ISWD Act does not prescribe any time limit for the tribunals to submit their report.

(c) & (d) : Do not arise.